STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: Takeo NOMURA et al. **Applicants**

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No.

: 10/596,031

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

(National Stage of PCT/JP2004/017489)

I.A. Filed

: December 25, 2004

Confirmation No.: 1877

For

: JET DISPERSING DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner the following information.

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report with respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/017489, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. Copies of the International Search Report (in Japanese and English) have been filed concurrently with the present application and should thus have already been brought to the attention of the Examiner.

(1) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 7-331170 together with an English language Abstract of the same, and patent family member U.S. Patent No. 5,723,518 to KAHL et al., which issued on March 3, 1998.

Applicants note that the Japanese document is cited on page 1 of the specification of the above-captioned application; and

(2) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2003-190847, together with an English language computer translation thereof.

The relevance of the documents cited in the International Search Report, as ascertained with respect to the international claims by the International Examiner, are set forth in the International Search Report.

Applicants further submit the following documents:

- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,896,399 to NOMURA et al., which issued on May 24, 2005; and
- (4) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0092238 to UENO et al., which was published on May 5, 2005.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patents and patent application publication are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents, including the noted English language Abstracts and translation, are attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present

P29946.A02

application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus, no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Takeo NOMURA et al.

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